Operation Iragi Freedom II

"Telling the First Team's Story"

Army Captain Roots for Navy

By Sgt. John Queen **3rd BCT Public Affairs**

FORWARD OPERATNG BASE UNION I, Iraq-- Take a look at any brigade headquarters company in the Army and chances are and you'll find it's staffed with a number of officers that graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point.

A closer observation of Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division in Iraq finds something a little different mixed in with its U.S. Military Academy alumni; graduates of the United States Air Force and Naval Academies.

Capt. Larry Edell and Capt. Sam Chanoski both transferred their commissions upon graduation from their respective academies to join the Army.

Chanoski applied and was accepted to both West Point and the Air Force Academy. He ended up opting for the Air Force Academy.

Edell, the brigade's trial counsel also said his original goal was to attend the Air Force Academy.

After checking out all three, Edell decided to apply at West Point and Annapolis instead of the U.S. Air Force Academy. Due to a medical condition, however, he was only accepted to the Naval Academy.

Though most of their peers think they went to West Point or attended a Reserve Officer's Training Course (ROTC) program in college, some find out about Edell and Chanoski's military beginnings, razzing them with playful taunts by calling them "Zoomy" or "Squid."

As the 105th Army-Navy game draws nea, school and service rivalries ignite for the service academy grads of the 3rd BCT.

"It's not always pretty and it's not the best college football game out there," Edell said. "[But] ... it does represent a



By Sgt. John Queen, 3rd BCT Public Affairs

As the Army-Navy game draws near, Capt. Sam Chanoski, Capt. Alan Boyer and Capt. Larry Edell, all graduates of United States military service academies, are getting pumped up to take the bragging rights that go with the Commander's Cup Trophy, going to the game's winner this year.

bunch of people playing with all their heart and giving it all they can."

"The thing about the Army-Navy game is records don't matter," adds Capt. Alan Boyer, assistant operations officer for the brigade and a 1996 graduate of U.S. Military Academy. "It's such a great game. It's the best college rivalry in football ... football in general. You never know who's going to win."

One thing sticks in Edell's mind when he reflects back on his days at the Naval Academy: sitting in the stands and watching Army beat Navy.

"I'm a graduate of the class of 1996, also," Edell said. "We lost the Army-Navy game all four years I was there. It still sticks in my gut."

Navy has done better this year

because of their new coach, Boyer said. But he and Edell agree: you never know with this game.

Although Edell has been in the Army for eight years he said he still bleeds blue and gold for his Annapolis alma mater.

"I still root for Navy much to the dismay [of my colleagues]," Edell said.

Chanoski said the story is the same for him, when Air Force plays Army he roots for Air Force.

"In most previous years it didn't make a difference, Air Force would walk all over them." Chanoski said, "... unfortunately, not this year."

If Navy wins this year, Edell plans on doing a lot bragging.

"If they lose, I'll be laying low," he said. "I'm kind of out numbered here."

Soldiers Shout Out to the Black Knights

By Staff Sgt. Susan German 122nd MPAD

BAGHDAD-- GO ARMY! NAVY!

Soldiers from Washington state's 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment (Mechanized), of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, participated in a video shoot at Camp Prosperity Nov.

They climbed up on their Bradley Fighting Vehicles positioned in front of the three Saddam heads which were at one time positioned around the palace at Camp Prosperity.

The heads provide a popular backdrop for photographs at the camp. A Combined Press Information Center video team filmed Soldiers representing the 1st Cavalry Division's battalions at various locations throughout the division's area of operations as they expressed their best wishes to the Army's Black Knights in their upcoming game against Navy on Saturday, Dec 4.

The video clips will be shown during the game, the 105th meeting of the Black Knights (2-8) from the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. and the Midshipmen (8-2) from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. The game will be played at Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia, Penn., a neutral site and home of the National Football League's Philadelphia Eagles.

The winner will take home the Commander in Chief's Trophy.



By Sgt. 1st Class Paul Stanek, 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry

Back row

Head left: Cpl. Matthew Baker, Scout Platoon, 1-161 Inf.

Spc. Aaron Marston, Scout Platoon

Head right: Sgt. Christian Johnson, C Company, 1-161 Inf.

Bradley left: Bradley Commander Staff Sgt. Brian

Mathews, A Co., 1-161 Inf. Bn.

Gunner Pfc. Steve MacCormac, A Co.

Bradley right: BC Sgt. Nicholas Stuart, A Co.

Gunner Spc. Stephan George, A Co.

Front row

Standing left to right: Spc. Paul Ford, Spc. Dave Rieland, 1st. Lt. Christopher Carbone, Capt. Randy Decoteau, Spc. Casey Gomez, all from HHC, 1-161 Inf. Bn.

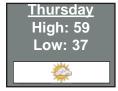
The game will be broadcast on national television as well as on the American Forces Network. Teaching the course is not only a fun experience, but

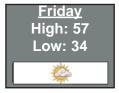
fulfilling on a grander scale, Lott said.

"I like the personal gratification I get when I can see the students understand what we've been teaching them," he said.

Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

It's been a very enjoyable stay. kaanit igaama mumtiAH







Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

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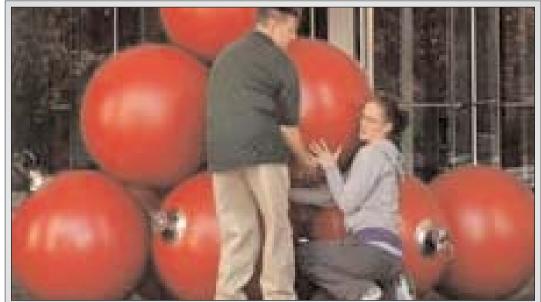
News Notes

Bahrainis End Marine Marriage

LAS VEGAS (AP)-- The five-year marriage is over between a former Marine and a young Bahraini royal whose story provided the basis for a madefor-television movie, "The Princess and the Marine." "It was what she wanted," Jason Johnson told the Las Vegas Review-Journal of the divorce he and Meriam Al-Khalifa filed for Nov. 17, the day after their fifth wedding anniversary. It calls them "incompatible in marriage." Johnson, who had sneaked his beloved into the United States and was court-martialed over the relationship, cast the tale as a "Romeo and Juliet" love affair that disintegrated amid Las Vegas nightlife, opposition by his wife's family, and at least one death threat.

'E.T.' Cereal Grain gets \$804

SYDNEY, Australia (AP)-- First it was a purported likeness of the Virgin Mary in a cheese sandwich. Now, a single grain of breakfast cereal with an uncanny resemblance to cuddly movie alien E.T. has reportedly fetched \$804 in an Internet auction. Chris Doyle of Sydney said he was about to pour milk over his cereal one morning when he noticed an E.T. lookalike peering from his bowl. Inspired by the \$28,000 online sale in November of a sandwich, the 27-year old decided to cash in on his alien-looking cereal.



ustin American-Statesman

Bryan Hiller and Stephanie Moore of Seasonscapes lift a giant Christmas tree ornament at the entrance to the Frost Bank Tower on Tuesday. They removed one of 38-inch-diameter ornaments that decorates the entrance of the office tower to re-paint it.

21,525 Stream Through Clinton Center

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)-- More than 1,000 people an hour toured the Clinton Presidential Center over Thanksgiving weekend as the Little Rock museum waived its admission fee.

A steady crowd of 21,525 people toured the library's exhibits Friday, Saturday and Sunday, taking advantage of the free admission offered those days, the library foundation's president said Monday.

"We thought we'd have a good crowd, maybe 10,000 people," said Skip Rutherford, head of the William J. Clinton Presidential Foundation. "We didn't expect anything like this."

The center's busiest day came Friday when 9,226 people entered the library. Another 8,331 people visited Saturday and 3,968 Sunday.

The library, expecting another strong turnout this Saturday because of a University of Arkansas Razorbacks basketball game at Alltel Arena and two high school football championship games, will again offer free shuttle service.

The National Archives waived the entrance fee during the Thanksgiving weekend to encourage Arkansans to wait until a week after the library's opening to see its exhibits. The \$165 million library complex was dedicated Nov. 18 before an estimated 25,000 to 27,000 people.

The free admission proved a successful draw, and Rutherford said other opportunities to waive the admission fee may come up in the future. Ticket prices are \$7 for adults; \$5 for senior citizens, college students and retired military; and \$3 for children between the ages of 6



Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

Clinton Presidential Center guide Betty Renolds (left) talks to the eighth-grade class from Augusta Elementary Monday. and 17.

"I think it's something that we'll work with the National Archives on," Rutherford said. "There may be some other holiday opportunities or anniversaries where we could do that again."

The foundation rented two Central Arkansas Transit Authority shuttles for about \$1,800 to transport visitors during the weekend.

Large crowds also filed through the Clinton Museum Store at 610 President Clinton Ave. over the weekend. The store, which sells a dancing Clinton doll and other wares, moved more than \$50,000 in merchandise over the weekend.

The store's sales have now exceeded \$350,000, Rutherford said.

"I'd say it was a pretty good launch," he

Sports/Leisure

Spurs Pound Mavericks, as Usual

DALLAS (AP)-- As much as the San Antonio Spurs love beating the Dallas Mavericks, this pounding was less satisfying than usual.

In defeating their division rivals 107-89 Tuesday night, the Spurs also ruined the pseudo-coaching debut of Avery Johnson, one of the most beloved players in San Antonio history.

Johnson's Mavericks never led, but were close at the start of the fourth quarter until Devin Brown sparked a victory-sealing spurt with two three-point plays and two dunks. He finished with 14 of his season-high 16 points in the period, leaving Johnson sulking as he walked off the court, merely nodding and waving to Gregg Popovich, San Antonio's coach and a good friend.

"I didn't coach against Avery, I just coached my team," Popovich said. "It wasn't about that."

Johnson, the hand-picked successor of Dallas coach Don Nelson, ran the game as if the



San Antonio Spurs' Tony Parker, bottom, of France, gets by Dallas Mavericks defender Dirk Nowitzki, top center, of Germany in the first half, Tuesday.

job was already his. Nelson was there, too, but offered only suggestions. This was the first of about six such training sessions Nelson hopes to have.

"It felt great, you are just mad that you lost," Johnson said. "It doesn't sit well with me. ... We have a very good basketball team here, but you didn't see that tonight."

Nelson picked this game to start breaking in Johnson because he played most of his 16 seasons for the Spurs, including starting on their 1999 championship club. This was the Spurs' fourth straight win and the second time in a week that they've easily handled the Mavericks.

In Brief

Hanks on Board to Film Da Vinci Code

LOS ANGELES (AP)--



Tom Hanks will reunite with director Ron Howard to star in "The Da Vinci Code," the

film adaptation of Dan Brown's best seller dissecting the origins of Christianity. Production will begin next year, and distributor Sony Pictures said Tuesday it plans to release the film May 19, 2006. "The Da Vinci Code" will mark Hanks' third collaboration with Howard and his producing partner Brian Grazer. The three previously worked together on "Splash" and "Apollo 13."

DC Approves Ballpark Plan

WASHINGTON (AP)--The District of Columbia Council approved financing a ballpark for the Washington-bound Expos after voting Tuesday to cap funding at \$630 million. "We're happy that the vote was to approve," said John McHale, an executive vice president in the commissioner's office and a member of baseball's relocation committee. The deal signed in September the Expos Washington Mayor Anthony A. Williams did not contain a cap. McHale said baseball had not yet received the text of Cropp's amendment and would wait until seeing the exact wording before responding. Baseball owners must vote on the deal.

'Jeopardy!' Whiz Ends Win Streak

NEW YORK (*AP*)-- "Jeopardy" whiz Ken Jennings finally met his match after a 74-game run as a pop culture icon who made brainiacs cool, beaten by a woman whose own 8-year-old daughter asked for his autograph when they first met.

As someone who always has prepared his own tax returns, Jennings was tripped up in Final Jeopardy by this answer: Most of this firm's 70,000 seasonal white-collar employees work only four months a year.

The correct reply: "What is H&R Block?" But Jennings guessed Federal Express, ending his remarkable run as the biggest winner in TV game show history with a haul of \$2,520,700.

Having an accountant-friend who's nearly impossible to reach at tax time paid off bigtime for his conqueror, California real estate agent Nancy Zerg, who ousted the baby-faced killer competitor in the episode airing Tuesday.

During his streak that began June 2, Jennings usually had opponents so thoroughly beaten that the Final Jeopardy question was meaningless to the outcome. But Zerg was within striking range at that point, with \$10,000 to Jennings' \$14,400.



"Jeopardy!" contestants Ken Jennings, left, and Nancy Zerg hug after Jennings ended his winning streak.

The champion had to think; out of the corner of his eye, he noticed Zerg had quickly written her reply.

"I was pretty sure before the music ended that was the ballgame," he said in an interview with The Associated Press.

Her correct reply gave Zerg \$14,001 to Jennings' \$8,799.

Neither Jennings nor Zerg expect the record will be broken.